

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Newsweek _____
Time _____
U.S. News & World Report 8
Date 18 Sept '89

STAT
U.S. Intelligence: "Where Spies Really Matter" [August 28-September 4] presents an excellent analysis of the present state of our human capability in intelligence work and the need to rebuild it. However, it implies that this part of our intelligence-gathering capability deteriorated gradually over a period of time. The 60 percent drop in covert capability cited by Admiral In-

man was not gradual but happened in one day in the infamous "Halloween massacre" of 1977 conducted by his mentor, Stansfield Turner, while serving as Jimmy Carter's CIA director. The damage done by Turner in gutting the Operations Directorate could not have been greater if it had been done by the KGB, and, 12 years later, we still see its effect.

*Earl E. Burdick
Fort Wayne, Ind.*

CONTINUED